

**World Wildlife Fund  
Technical, Educational and Policy Assistance  
For Conservation in the Russian Far East Ecoregion**

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**Quarterly Report  
First Quarter, FY01  
(October-December 2000)**

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This report describes the activities of World Wildlife Fund's project "Technical, Educational and Policy Assistance for Conservation in the Russian Far East Ecoregion" during the first quarter of fiscal year 2001 (October-December 2000), under Cooperative Agreement #118-A-00-95-00303-00 with USAID. The main objectives of this project are to increase the long-term sustainability of nature conservation in the Russian Far East by:

1. Establishing a Small Grant Program to support biodiversity conservation initiatives.
  2. Building ecotourism capacity in and around nature reserves to increase public support for conservation and generate income for nature protection activities.
  3. Providing assistance to improve fire response capability including:
    - 3.1. Increase public awareness on fire prevention – Design a National Strategy
    - 3.2. Improve interagency cooperation on fire identification and suppression
    - 3.3. Provide technical assistance on purchasing radio communication equipment and fire fighting equipment for mobile forest fire fighting teams
  4. Ensuring the sustainability of the USAID funded project results
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## **Highlights of Project Accomplishments during the First Quarter FY01**

### ***1. Establishing a Small Grant Program to support biodiversity conservation initiatives***

#### **Major Implementation Accomplished This Quarter:**

##### **I. Program accomplishments:**

For the period reported according to the work plan for 2000 and 2001, the following activities were implemented:

- 110 consultations on proposal writing were conducted.
- 1 outreach seminar on proposal writing was conducted.
- The program was presented at different meetings.
- 109 proposals were received for the 3<sup>rd</sup> round.
- The experts competition for the 3<sup>rd</sup> round was held.
- The new Advisory Board was established.
- The comparative statistic analysis on the first and second grant rounds were prepared.
- The third meeting of Advisory Board was held in Vladivostok.
- 28 proposals were recommended for financing for the total sum of \$243,806.00.
- Publications were prepared and published.
- The program was profiled on a local TV program.

##### **II. Project Indicators:**

Consultations conducted – 110

Outreach seminars on proposal writing conducted - 1

RFA disseminated – 39

Information letters disseminated - 11

Interviews given - 1

Proposals received – 109

Intermediate project reports received – 14

Final reports received - 4

Press-releases issued and published - 2

#### **Consultations on Proposal Writing**

110 consultations on proposal writing were made. These were personal consultations (47 in number), consultations on the phone (41) and answers to written information requests (22). Each consultation was registered in a special journal with the following recorded: name of a visitor, type of organization, type of consultation (phone, e-mail, personal) and questions covered during

consultation (e.g. information on the program, consultations on a specific project, consultation on a rejected project, consultation on an approved project) and consultation duration.

### **Outreach Seminar**

On October 3, a seminar on proposal writing was conducted in Khabarovsk. Forty-five participants from 24 organizations took part in the seminar. The seminar was organized and conducted together with the ROLL 2000 program staff. Information on each part of RFA was explained and different questions answered. Twenty RFAs and twenty information letters with grantee information and graphics were handed out.

### **Experts Competition**

In October, an independent expert competition was held. Two new experts were selected to review proposals for the second grant round. Irkutskaya oblast, Irkutsk, Anatolii Vinober Director of the Baikalskii Institute for Ecology and Nature Use; Khabarovskii krai, Khabarovsk, Vladimir Boltrushko, Head of the Environmental Committee for Khabarovskii krai; Primorskii krai, Vladivostok, Sergey Ganzei, Deputy Director of the Pacific Institute of Geography, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Science served the second term. Each expert signed the Terms of References document. While selecting experts, the program administrator took into consideration the following criteria: good knowledge of environmental problems of the region; ability to prioritize; high professional level, working experience in applied activities; authority among regional environmental organizations; concern, free time available for expertise. Also the geographical factor was taken into consideration. Three administrative districts were represented during the two grant rounds: Primorskii and Khabarovskii kraises and Irkutskaya oblast. During the previous quarter, the program administrator tried to find experts in the Jewish autonomous oblast. The proposed candidates did not meet the above-mentioned criteria for experts' selection.

### **Review of Proposals**

1. A new version of the project evaluation criteria form was developed based upon the experience received in the first grant round and the comments of independent experts and WWF's staff.
2. 109 proposals for the third grant round were received, one proposal was rejected by the program administrator because it did not correspond to the minimum eligibility criteria.
3. 108 proposals were evaluated by independent experts. Each proposal received three marks.
4. Two grading lists were formed based on the expertise results and the WWF's staff comments (in descending order). One for the first grant level proposals (up to \$7,000.00) and another for the second grant level (up to \$25,000.00).
5. The final project score was calculated in the following way:
  - an average score was calculated based on three points of independent experts
  - 5 additional points were added when the WWF's staff made positive comments
6. In some cases the program administrator did not include a proposal in the list of high-ranking proposals even if it received a high score (e.g. if experts did not notice the purely scientific nature of proposal).
7. In some cases, the program administrator included a proposal in the list of high-ranking proposals even if it did not receive a high score. In these cases, the proposal reflected WWF's goals and activities. In such cases, the proposal was given additional five points.
8. A separate competition was held for each grant level.

9. Twenty final proposals were selected.
10. A list of four reserved proposals was also formed (in descending order).

### **Advisory Board Established**

A new Advisory Board was established. Board members included: Nikolai Balaganskii, Head of the Hunting Department for Khabarovskii krai, Khabarovsk; Aleksander Guskov, Senior Specialist of the Exterior and Regional Affairs Department for the Primorskii Krai Administration, Vladivostok; Aleksander Savvin, Head of the Ministry for Nature Resources for Primorskii krai, Vladivostok; Oleg Shemyakin, representative of the tourist firm "Apeks-DG", Irkutsk; Olga Likhacheva, Small Grant Program Manager, ISAR-RFE, Vladivostok; Viktor Gaponov, Head of the Fauna Division of the Nature Resources Department of the Primorskii Krai Administration.

*Judging from the experience gained, it makes sense to invite to the Board directors/heads of organizations and not simply representatives or substitutes. Directors know the situation well and have the power to make decisions. Practically all the questions on project implementation that arose during the meeting were solved immediately because of the presence of Mr. Savvin, Mr. Balaganskii, and Mr. Gaponov. According to the Board decision, these three board members were assigned to supervise several project activities. The issue of information exchange between two different grant programs was solved with Olga Likhacheva's help.*

### **28 Proposals Recommended for Financing**

Out of the twenty-eight projects from the main list, twenty-six were recommended for financing by the Advisory Board. Two projects out of three from the reserved list were selected. Projects recommended for financing by the Advisory Board were distributed among the regions in the following way: Amurskaya oblast - 6 projects; Khabarovskii krai - 4; Primorskii krai - 12; Sakhalinskaya oblast - 2; Jewish AO - 2; Irkutskaya oblast - 1; Moscow - 1. The list of projects recommended for financing was sent to USAID for final approval.

### **Publications**

Information on the third grant round was announced in two press releases, which were published in local newspapers. On October 30, Yuliya Fomenko, the Program Coordinator participated in a local TV program "Hello, Studio". It is one of the most popular 30-minute programs broadcast during prime time in Primorskii krai. The program provided the opportunity to present our Small Grant Program and answer phone calls. Judging by the number of phone calls, we came to the conclusion that the Small Grant Program is quite well known in the region. Numerous people, who had not applied for a grant, called. Several phone calls were received from people, who are ready to help the Program by distributing information. After viewing the TV program, four applicants came to the office and received consultation on proposal writing. A press release on the third grant-round and two success stories were sent to last issue of Regional Initiative update (USAID-Moscow, Valentin Stobetskii).

### **Integrated Analysis of Proposals Received for the First, Second and Third Grant Rounds**

An integrated comparative analysis of proposals received for the first, second and third grant rounds consists of several graphics: correlation between submitted and financed proposals among regions; correlation between submitted and financed proposals according to award levels;

distribution of submitted and financed proposals according to priority topic areas; distribution of submitted and financed proposals according to organization types; total sum of funds disbursed; total sum of funds disbursed among regions; correlation of submitted and financed proposals in capitals and non-capitals (attached). Comparative statistic analysis was presented at the third Advisory Board meeting together with statistics on the third grant round.

### **III. Travel/Meetings**

On October 3, a seminar on proposal writing was conducted in Khabarovsk. Forty-five participants from twenty-four organizations took part in the seminar. The seminar was organized and conducted together with the ROLL 2000 program staff. One meeting was held with the Targeted Grant Program Representative from Khabarovsk (Anna Lygina) and two meetings were held with the Far Eastern Regional Center for the ROLL project based in Vladivostok (Valeriya Efitsenko). Changes in the programs were discussed and experience in the grant-giving mechanism was shared. In November, lists of projects received by ROLL and WWF were exchanged just to avoid project duplication and so that grant money could be spent in a more effective way.

### **IV. Plans for the next quarter**

- Fill out CRDF's GAP application forms
- Sign Terms of references with grantees
- Send out congratulation letters to 28 winners
- Send out regret letters to 80 applicants
- Distribute information letters with the competition results according to the mailing list
- Distribute information letters among independent experts and Advisory Board's members
- Issue and send out press release on the results of the third grant round
- Interview on local radio and TV and publications in press media
- Input information on the third round into the program web-site
- Consultations on reporting requirements
- Receive interim and final technical reports
- Process received final reports to be published as a separate booklet on the program accomplishments.

### **V. Constraints**

The main obstacle is constant delays in grant money payments by US CRDF (Civilian Research and Development Foundation). As a result, some of the project activities were not completed, many projects were prolonged and some of the grantees had to borrow money from third party organizations just to meet project deadlines. To avoid the difficulties, the program staff negotiated with CRDF's representatives on possible changes in the grant payments system. Some concessions have been achieved.

### **VI. Attachments**

1. Integrated analysis of the projects received for the first, second and third grant rounds

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2. Statistics for the third grant round
3. Two press releases
4. List of projects recommended for financing within the third grant round

## ***2. Building ecotourism capacity in and around nature reserves to increase public support for conservation and generate income for nature protection activities.***

### **Major Implementation Accomplished This Quarter:**

The USAID-funded ecotourism program made significant progress during the first quarter of 2001. Specific objectives for this quarter included:

- Develop ecotourism infrastructure in and around selected zapovedniks. Provide buildings, toilets, water, electricity, trails, tables, observation towers, etc. for visitors.
- Promote ecotourism and provide marketing support.
- Provide training and educational materials. Integrate local communities in ecotourism activities.

To describe progress meeting these objectives, this quarterly report summarises developments in the following categories:

- 1) Program Activities
- 2) Summary of Deliverables and Output
- 3) Problems, Solutions, and Lessons Learned
- 4) Planned Activities for Next Quarter
- 5) Program Chronology

#### **1) Program Activities**

This section describes specific program activities in the following areas:

- Staff and office
- Infrastructure development
- Marketing and eco-tourism promotion
- Printing and media
- Citizen involvement

### ***Activities:***

#### **Staff and Office**

The WWF/RFE ecotourism program moved to a new office in July 2000. Beginning in August, Konstantine Zgurovsky and Grigory Bolman joined the ecotourism program as consultants. Along with Steve Nelson, Andrey Kotliar, and Tataiana Mirsadykova, the WWF ecotourism staff now includes five people. These people worked together to complete activities related to: infrastructure development, marketing, printing, and community involvement. These activities are described below.

**Infrastructure Development**

To develop ecotourism infrastructure, the program provided grants to five zapovedniks, one zakaznik, one nature monument, and two special protected areas. Initial infrastructure development grants equalled about \$150,000. Specific projects include:

*Primorsky krai*

- Lazovsky Zapovednik: Tiger coast
- Khankaisky Zapovednik: Lotus and cranes
- Gamov peninsula: Primorsky coast
- Primorye nature parks: Ginsing ecotour
- Samarga River: Agzu tribal village

*Khabarovsk krai*

- Bolshekhkhtsyrsky Zapovednik: Amur mountain range
- Sikhote-Alin Nature Park: Wild animal rehabilitation center
- Chukensky Zapovednik: Udege revival.

*Amursakya oblast*

- Khinganzky Zapovednik: Lake of white birds

By 30 September 2000, WWF staff negotiated grants and provided money to each project. In addition, we issued a second request for proposals to develop infrastructure. We will receive new proposals on 1 February 2001, and make decisions for new projects in March 2001. In this way, all projects should start construction activities in spring 2001 and be ready for fall tourist activities.

**Marketing and Ecotourism Promotion**

To promote ecotourism around protected areas, WWF staff conducted marketing activities to bring tour operators and journalists to the Russian Far East. We organized several demonstration tours, printed marketing and educational material, made presentations to several groups, and began work on an eco-tourism web-site. In addition, we contacted tour operators in Russia, Europe, Japan, Australia, and America built a database of contacts. We also began planning tours for fall 2001.

**Printing, Media, and Educational Materials**

To provide information about ecotourism, the staff published brochures for the Far Eastern Marine Reserve and Lazovsky Zapovednik. Also, we began work on Sikhote-Alin Green Books to describe flora and fauna of the Russian Far East. These books should be complete in summer 2001. In cooperation with WWF press officer, we produced several videos that appeared on local television. Local journalists wrote several ecotourism articles for regional newspapers.

**Citizen Involvement: Workshops and Seminars**

The program conducted several workshops to discuss ecotourism goals with local tour operators, government officials, zapovednik directors, and other stakeholders. Specific workshops included:

- **Lazovsky citizen involvement roundtable:** 15 November Lazo. Seminar and discussion with local citizens to discuss ecotourism around Lazovsky zapovednik and Kievka River.
- **Safe Ecotourism workshop:** Designed to improve training for local tourism companies, the two-day workshop was organized by Phoenix Fund, NGO and conducted in Vladivostok in November.
- **WWF/RPO eco-tourism seminar:** 4 December. Review program status with WWF/RPO management and staff.
- **Vladivostok eco-tourism workshop:** 13 December Vladivostok. Workshop to review current projects in Primorye krai and to discuss ecotourism vision for the future. Answer questions about future WWF funding.
- **Khabarovsk eco-tourism workshop:** 15 December, Khabarovsk. Workshop to review current WWF projects in Khabarovsk krai and Amurskaya oblast. Discuss vision for the future with regional stakeholders and answer questions about future funding.

## 2. Summary of Deliverables, Products, and Outputs

The ecotourism project completed contracts and began work on nine infrastructure projects in late summer 2000. We completed all contract negotiations and provided financial grants to selected reserves in time for the spring 2001 building season. In November, we issued a second round proposal requests for another three or four infrastructure projects. This schedule allows us to complete all construction projects by September 2001.

In the marketing area, we conducted important demonstration tours during summer months and developed a database of international contacts. The program published additional marketing brochures and began development on an ecotourism web-site. By completing these activities during winter months, we meet our schedule and have enough time to market and prepare WWF tours for summer and fall 2001. To encourage partnerships with private tour operators, we conducted two ecotourism conferences in Vladivostok and Khabarovsk. These meetings help build consensus and improve understanding of the WWF ecotourism program. All activities to develop infrastructure, promote ecotourism, and strengthen public outreach represent specific targets and milestones described in the two-year work plan.

Specific achievements for the quarter include:

- Completed infrastructure grants to nine projects
- Conducted five regional workshop
- Organized and supported four demonstration tours in the Russian Far East



In cooperation with a the RFE press officer, the ecotourism program produced:

- Marketing brochures for Far Eastern Marine and Lazovsky Zapovedniks
- Six press-releases on the Eco-tourism Program events
- Slide show and PowerPoint presentation: ecotourism in the Russian Far East
- Nineteen television news reports covering all above mentioned Program events
- Three television videos on ecotourism development in Lazovsky Zapovednik
- Nine newspaper articles in regional and national mass media
- Three radio interviews with the program staff
- Several articles on Internet sites, including Action Network about ecotourism development in the Russian Far East
- Three public presentations describing ecotourism opportunities in the region
- Contact database and mailing lists of local and international partners

### **3.) Problems, Solutions, and Lessons Learned**

According to the work plan, the program was late transferring funds to the nine infrastructure development projects. We hoped to provide money to all sites by June, but succeeded only by the end of September. This slowed our building season because we missed most of the summer.

However, the delay will not significantly affect program goals since we plan to complete all construction by the end of the grant, September 2001. In other schedule changes, we will delay publication of Sikhote-Alin Green Books in order to provide text in both Russian and English.

To overcome these grant management problems, the ecotourism staff worked hard to better understand the WWF grant process. In addition we worked to improve communication with the accounting departments in Moscow and Vladivostok. Much of our delays in infrastructure development were due to our poor understanding of grant conditions and terminology.

However, after our initial set of grant agreements, the staff learned the financial process and implemented a format that can be easily used to speed up future grants to zapovedniks and other protected areas.

To improve communications and better coordinate with Moscow/RPO staff, all RFE staff came to Moscow in early December to describe program status and answer any questions. We will continue to work closely with Moscow office, especially in issues related to web-site development, marketing, fundraising, and strategic planning for ecotourism. To continue the program beyond the two-year USAID grant, WWF Russia should develop a clear and consistent strategy to develop ecotourism around zapovedniks. The ecotourism staff will work on this strategy in early 2001.

#### **Lessons learned during the fourth quarter:**

Developing ecotourism around the zapovedniks remains a difficult task. There are few tourist facilities and only a small number of tourists visit these places. In order to succeed, WWF should take a long-term view and play a leadership role in the Russian Far East. In this role, WWF can help market ecotourism to zapovedniks and facilitate partnerships with private tour operators. One approach is to form an association of Russian tour operators who agree to support WWF goals in exchange to WWF marketing support.

Moreover, to evaluate the value of eco-tourism, we should measure the increase in tourist revenues to zapovedniks and compare it to the benefits and costs of further development. Specifically, we should help zapovedniks prepare a business plan that estimates infrastructure costs and tourist revenues for the next five years. This could help manage growth and set realistic schedules and long-term targets. Some reserves, such as Bolshekheksirsky zapovednik, have a good business plan. But, most others do not and some directors seem reluctant to share this information because of possible tax problems. To succeed in five or ten years, WWF should cooperate with zapovedniks and private tour operators to develop a long-term strategy that includes important regional stakeholders.

#### **4) Planned Activities for the next quarter**

- Begin construction of all infrastructure projects in spring 2001.
- Select additional (about three) projects for infrastructure development.
- Conduct marketing tours in Europe, Japan, and Russia.
- Plan and organize WWF demonstration tours to the Russian Far East.
- Complete a WWF eco-tourism web site.
- Write a Strategic Plan to develop eco-tourism in the Russian Far East.
- Increase cooperation with WWF/Moscow, WWF/US and other WWF partners.

#### **5. Program Chronology**

**October 1-12:** Botchi River demonstration tour with Wild Salmon Center, Botchinski zapovednik

**October 19:** Eco-tourism presentation to WWF/RFE staff, Vladivostok

**October 29-30:** Escorted foreign tour operators to Ussiriski zapovednik and Far Eastern Marine Reserve

**November 15:** Issued Ecotourism “request for proposals” for new infrastructure development

**November 28-29:** Safe Ecotourism Workshop with Phoenix Fund, Vladivostok

**December 4-8:** Presentation and meetings with WWF/RPO, Moscow

**December 7:** Met with British Embassy about tiger/leopard projects, Moscow

**December 13:** WWF Primorye eco-tourism workshop, Vladivostok

**December 15:** WWF Khabarovsk/Amurskaya eco-tourism workshop, Khabarovsk

**January 3-12:** Met with WWF/US and with new staff, Washington, DC.

### ***3. Providing assistance to improve fire response capability including:***

*3.1. Increase public awareness on fire prevention – Design a National Strategy*

*3.2. Improve interagency cooperation on fire identification and suppression*

*3.3. Provide technical assistance on purchasing radio communication equipment and fire fighting equipment for mobile forest fire fighting teams*

#### **Major Implementations Accomplished this Quarter**

- The National Strategy on Public Education and Awareness in Forest Fire Prevention (Strategy) was presented to and discussed with the Forest Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and MNR board meeting. The strategy was coordinated at all

levels. The US Forest Service, Smokey the Bear Center, WWF US and USAID consulted on the strategy.

- The strategy was translated into English and passed to USAID.
- The presentation of the Russian logo and slogan for the national campaign for forest fire prevention was held in Moscow on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2000. Representatives from the Forest Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources, The World Conservation Union (IUCN), WWF and mass media were present.
- The Forest Department of the MNR adopted the logo and slogan.
- Necessary documents for adopting the logo as the state's standard are being prepared.
- WWF RPO forest officers had a training course on forest fire education during a study tour in the United States, organized by WWF US.
- Future implementation of the strategy and realization of the project were consulted with USAID Moscow Office on December 20, 2000.

Targets not attained during the reporting period and why.

- Reorganization of the Russian Federal Forest Service and changes in positions of the key persons at federal and local level caused delay in confirmation of the strategy at the federal level. Nevertheless, all possible measures (meetings, negotiations and consultations with the management of the Forest Department of MNR) were undertaken to confirm and adopt the strategy at the federal level.

**Major Implementations Accomplished this Quarter:**

- A proposal to establish in Khabarovsk "Coordination & Co-operation Center" for forest fire suppression, fire-prevention work with the public, coordination and monitoring the activities of mobile fire-fighting brigades was submitted and discussed at the local (Khabarovsk Forest Management Department, Khabarovsk Education and Training Center, Aerial Forest Protection) and federal (Forest Dept of MNR, Moscow) levels.
- Discussions and consultations were conducted to define the duties of the Center and to create a plan.
- A former Deputy Minister, responsible for forest fire suppression, was named center manager. The steps he should take to establish the center and his duties were agreed upon and a contract was made.

Next steps

- The manager plans to take a business trip to Khabarovsk in late January 2001, to have meetings, negotiations and consultations with the Territory Administration, Regional MNR, and the Department of Forest Management. A detailed Plan of Center's activities and will be ready in the first quarter of 2001. Coordination of activities of the fire prevention work will be discussed with Winrock.

**Major Implementations Accomplished this Quarter:**

- All installed radio stations were used actively and efficiently.
- All necessary measures for maintaining the radio stations were undertaken.

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- According to an assessment of the Khabarovsk Forest Management Department, use of the radio stations for early forest fire detection and the use of fire-fighting equipment have decreased the number of forest fires by 30%.
- The maintenance and monitoring of the use of active radio stations will continue.

Fire equipment for mobile Forest Fire Fighting Brigades.

- The delivery of all the equipment for mobile forest fire fighting brigades was completed in accordance with the agreed schedule. The mobile forest fire fighting brigades were totally equipped and the establishment of the mobile fire fighting brigades was completed.
- An agreement between WWF RPO and Russian Federal Forest Service on “Securing Amur tiger habitat from forest fires” is effective for the period of 5 years.
- Maps of the mobile fire fighting brigades’ activity were prepared.
- Meeting of the WWF RFE Journalists Club was held in Chuguevka, Primorye territory on November 17-18, 2000. Materials covering activities of Chuguevka mobile fire fighting brigade were widely reported in the mass media.
- All targets were attained in time with good results. There were some difficulties with registering the equipment in the Federal Automobile Inspection.

**Next steps:**

- The “Coordination & Co-operation Center” for forest fire suppression will coordinate and record the activities of mobile fire-fighting brigades, develop their working plans and monitor the use of fire fighting equipment.
- Leskhozoes, where mobile fire-fighting brigades are based, will keep, maintain the fire-fighting equipment and prepare it for fire-risk season.
- \$130,000 will be spent on additional radios, which will be installed in consultation with the U.S. Forest Service. The U.S. Forest Service advised on the purchase and installation of the first set of radios.

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## Project Management

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## Small Grants Program “Ecoregion” Comparative Analysis ?? the First and Second Grant Rounds

**First round** – 200 proposals received,  
26 proposals financed

**Second round** – 164 proposals received,  
30 proposals financed

### 1. Correlation of financed proposals in regions

Region	<b>I round</b> Number of financed proposals	<b>II round</b> Number of financed proposals
Primorskii krai	14	11
Khabarovskii krai	4	9
Amurskaya oblast	3	4
Jewish AO	3	2
Sakhalinskaya oblast	2	2
Irkutskaya oblast	-	1
Yakutia	-	-
Moscow	-	1

### 2. Correlation of financed proposals in Capitals and “Non-Capitals”

Capitals – Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Blagoveschensk, Birobidzhan

Financed proposals	<b>I round</b> Number of financed proposals	<b>II round</b> Number of financed proposals
Capitals	18	17
«Non-Capitals»	8	13

### 3. Correlation of financed proposals according to award levels

Award levels	<b>I round</b> Number of financed proposals	<b>II round</b> Number of financed proposals
<b>First level</b> , up to \$7000	25	27
<b>Second level</b> , up to \$25000	1	3

#### 4. Correlation of financed proposals according to priority topic areas

Priority topic areas	<b>I round</b> Number of financed proposals	<b>II round</b> Number of financed proposals
Optimize the system of protected areas	7	11
Improve natural resources management	7	11
Raise awareness of the local population in nature conservation	12	8

#### 5. Correlation of financed proposals according to organizations types

Organization ????	<b>I round</b> Number of financed proposals	<b>II round</b> Number of financed proposals
Non-governmental organizations	8	12
Governmental Academic Institutes	2	1
Scientific Organizations	4	1
Nature Reserves	4	7
Other governmental structures	6	9
Commercial organizations	2	-





**Программа Малых Грантов «Экорегион»**  
III раунд, декабрь 2000 г.



**На третий раунд получено 109 проектов**  
**Выставлено на конкурс – 108 (1 проект отсеян администрацией программы)**

**1. Распределение поступивших проектов по регионам**

<b>Регион</b>	<b>Количество поступивших проектов</b>	<b>% соотношение</b>
Приморский край	52	48%
Хабаровский край	21	19%
Амурская область	14	13%
Еврейская Автономная область	4	3%
Сахалинская область	14	13%
Иркутская область	1	1%
Магаданская область	1	1%
Москва	1	1%
Камчатская область	1	1%

**2. Соотношение проектов, поступивших от центра и «глубинки»**

	<b>Количество поступивших проектов</b>	<b>% соотношение</b>
Центр	73	67%
«Глубинка»	36	33%

**3. Соотношение поступивших проектов по уровням финансирования**

<b>Первый уровень финансирования, до \$7000</b>	<b>Второй уровень финансирования, до \$25000</b>
82 – 75%	27-25%

#### 4. Распределение поступивших проектов по направлениям деятельности

Направление деятельности	Количество поступивших проектов	% соотношение
Совершенствование системы ООПТ	22	20%
Совершенствование системы управления природопользованием	21	19%
Повышение заинтересованности местного населения в сохранении окружающей среды экорегиона	52	48%
Морские проекты	9	8%
Туристические проекты	5	5%

#### 5. Распределение поступивших проектов по типу организаций

Тип организации	Количество поступивших проектов	% соотношение
Общественные организации	45	41%
Вузы	7	7%
Научные организации (НИИ)	12	11%
Заповедники	15	14%
Государственные организации	21	19%
Коммерческие структуры	9	8%



## Small Grants Program “Ecoregion” Comparative Analysis ?? the Third Grant Round

**Third round** – 109 proposals received,  
28 proposals recommended for financing

### 1. Correlation of financed proposals in regions

Region	<b>III round</b> Number of received proposals	Percentage
Primorskii krai	52	48%
Khabarovskii krai	21	19%
Amurskaya oblast	14	13%
Jewish AO	4	3%
Sakhalinskaya oblast	14	13%
Irkutskaya oblast	1	1%
Magadan	1	1%
Moscow	1	1%
Kamchatka	1	1%

### 2. Correlation of financed proposals in Capitals and “Non-Capitals”

Capitals – Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Blagoveschensk, Birobidzhan

Financed proposals	<b>III round</b> Number of received proposals	<b>I round</b> Percentage
Capitals	73	67%
«Non-Capitals»	36	33%

### 3. Correlation of financed proposals according to award levels

Award levels	<b>I round</b> Number of recommended proposals	
<b>First level</b> , up to \$7000	75-82%	
<b>Second level</b> , up to \$25000	25-27%	

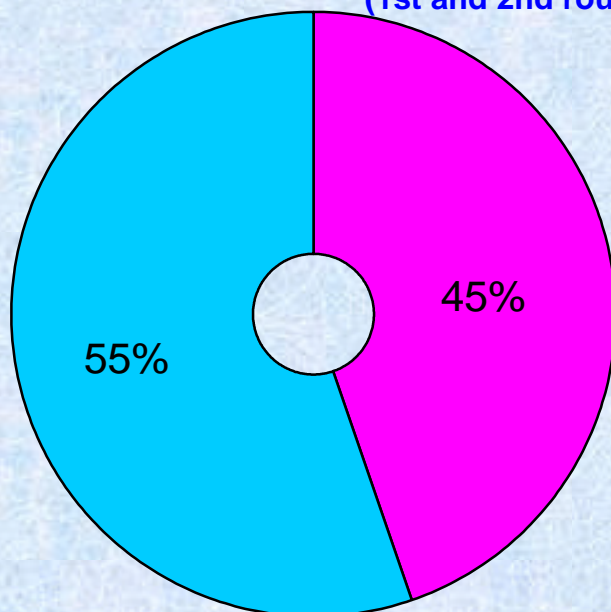
#### 4. Correlation of financed proposals according to priority topic areas

Priority topic areas	<b>III round</b> Number of recommended proposals	Percentage
Optimize the system of protected areas	22	20%
Improve natural resources management	21	19%
Raise awareness of the local population in nature conservation	52	48%
Marine projects	9	8%
Tourist projects	5	5%

#### 5. Correlation of financed proposals according to organizations types

Organization ????	<b>III round</b> Number of recommended proposals	<b>Percentage</b>
Non-governmental organizations	35	41%
Academic Institutes	7	7%
Scientific Organizations	12	11%
Nature Reserves	15	14%
Governmental structures	21	19%
Commercial organizations	9	8%

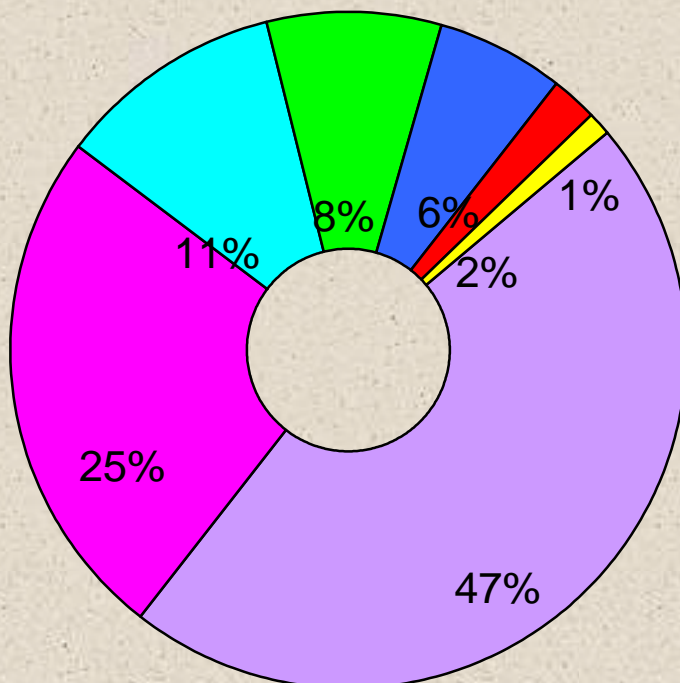
**Total Sum of Funds Disbursed  
(1st and 2nd rounds)**



■ Total sum of the 1st round funds- \$155,238

■ Total sum of the 2nd round funds- \$192,617

**Total Sum of Funds Disbursed among Regions**



■ Primorskii krai - \$161,964

■ Khabarovskii krai - \$86,448

■ Amurskaya oblast - \$37,950

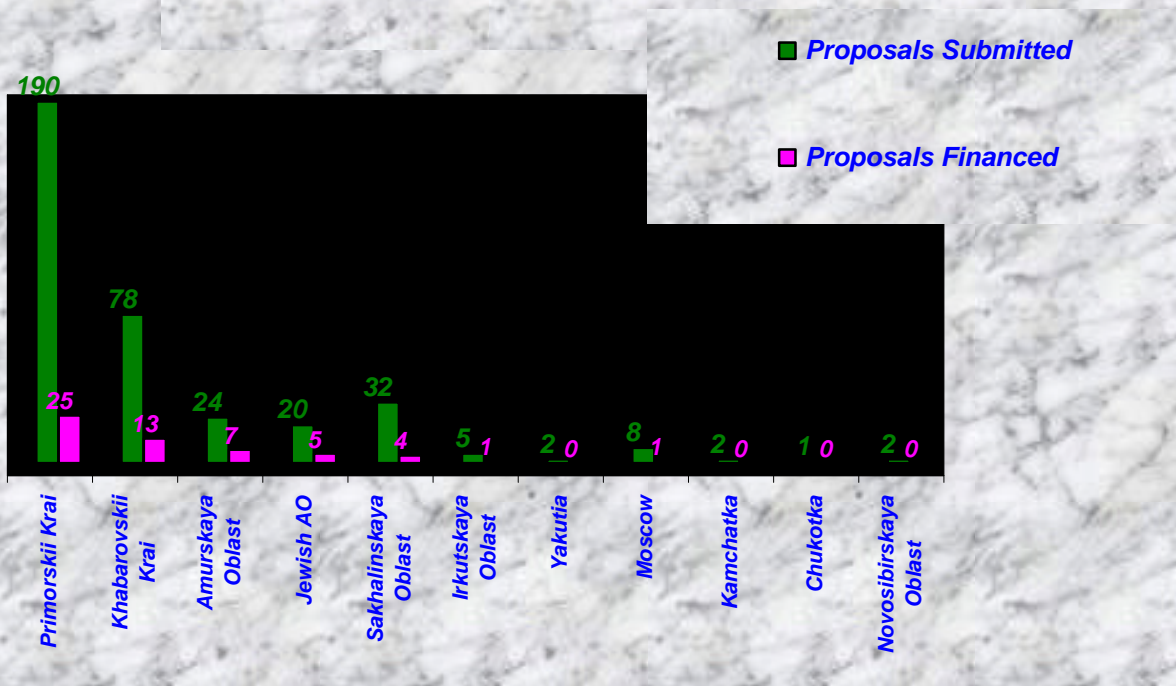
■ Jewish AO - \$28,727

■ Sakhalinskaya oblast - \$21,566

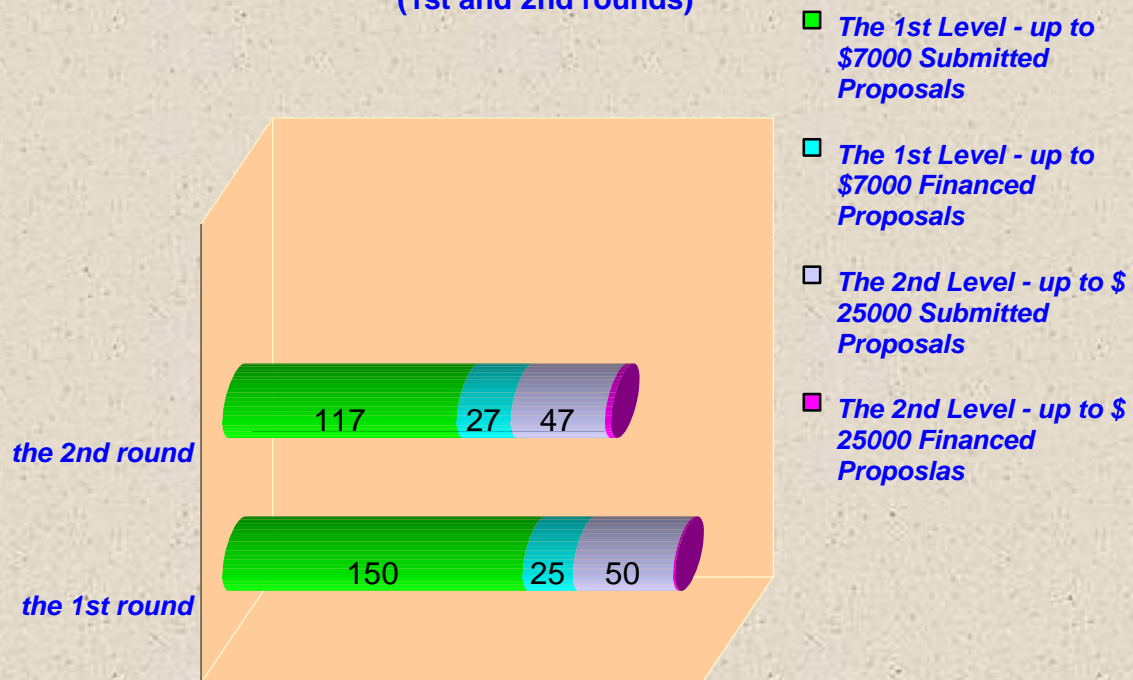
■ Irkutskaya oblast - \$7,000

■ Moscow - \$4,200

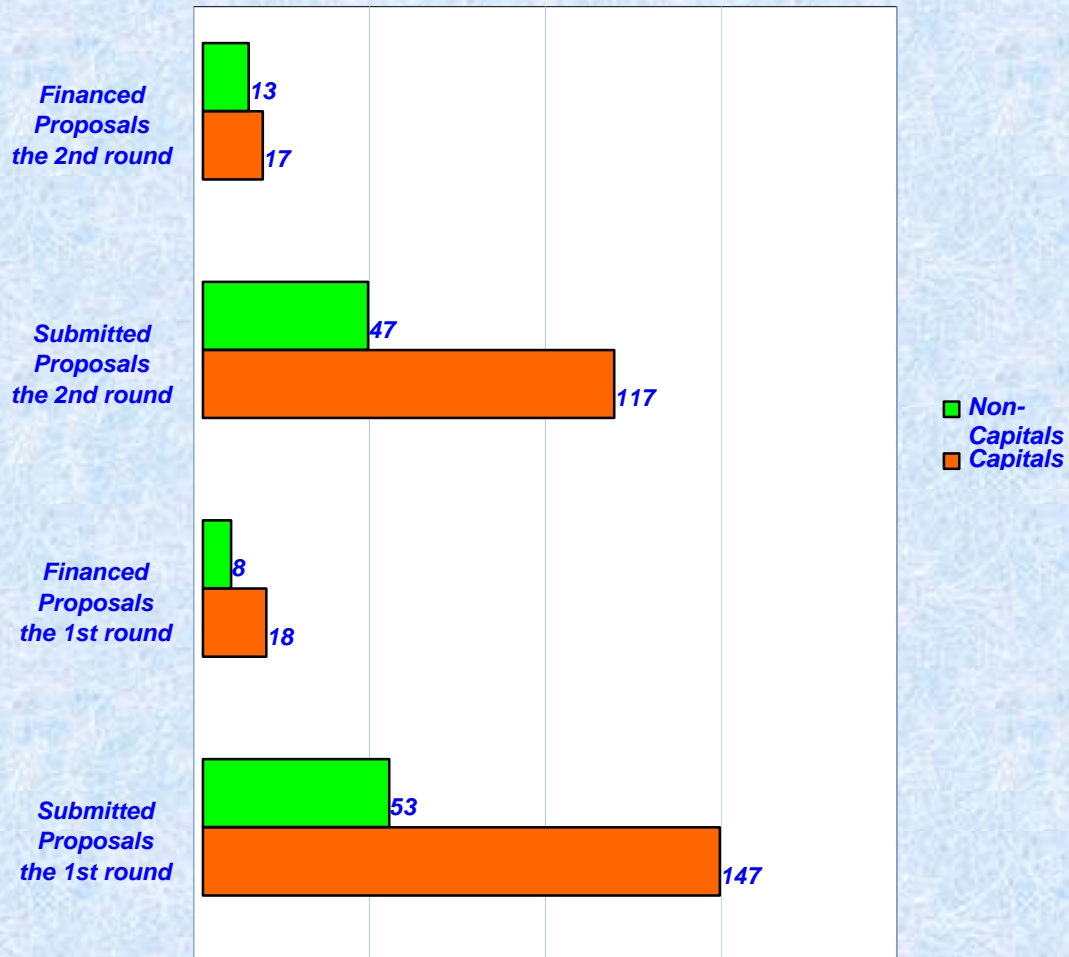
### Correlation between Submitted and Financed Proposals among Regions (1st and 2nd rounds)



### Correlation between Submitted and Financed Proposals According to Award Levels (1st and 2nd rounds)

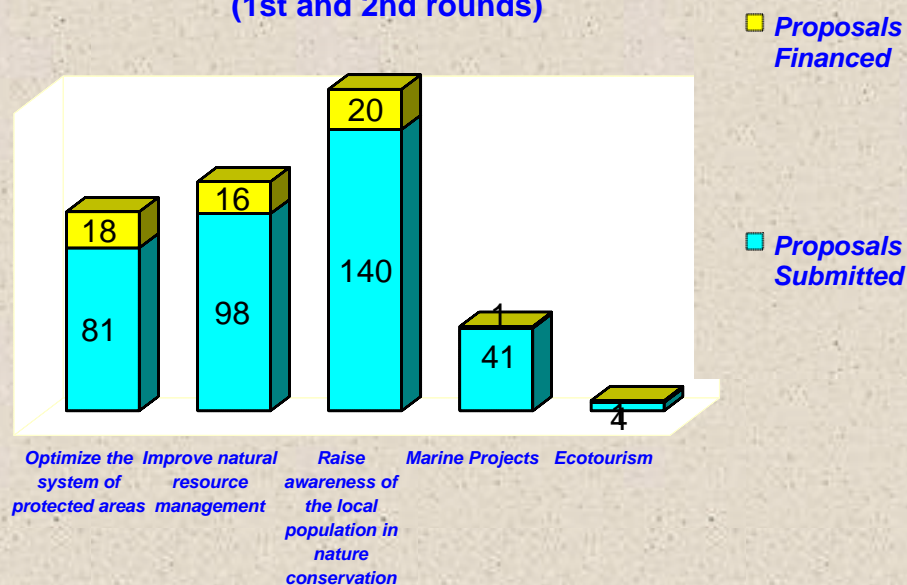


### Correlation between Submitted and Financed Proposals in Capitals and "Non-Capitals"

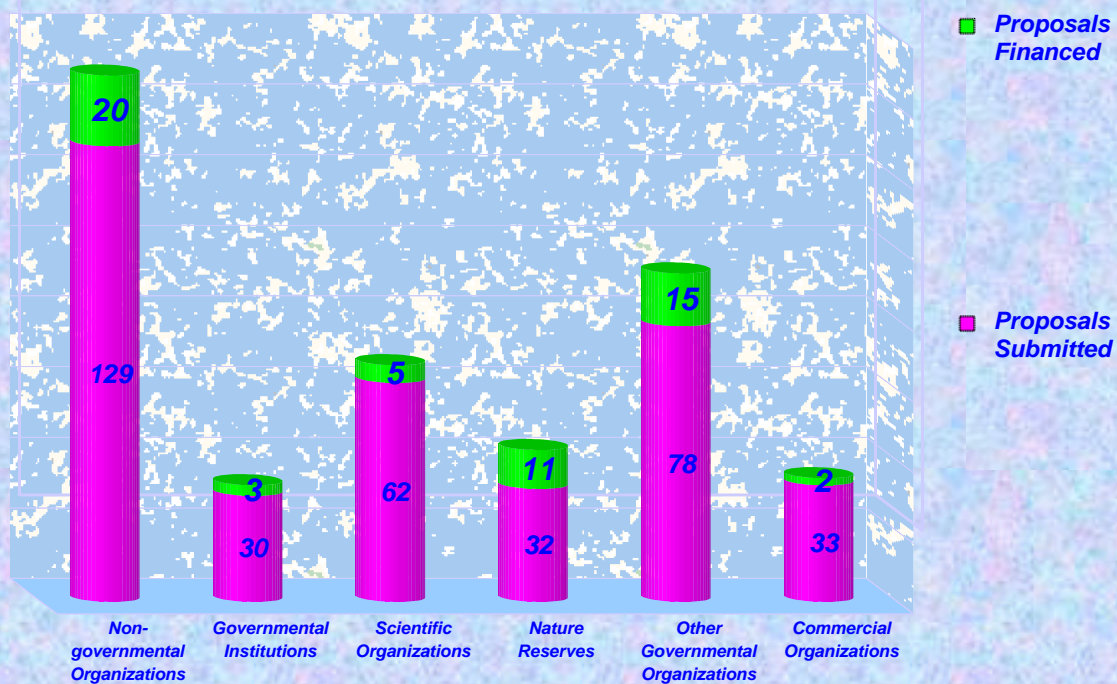




**Distribution of Submitted and Financed Proposals According to Priority Topics (1st and 2nd rounds)**



**Distribution of Submitted and Financed Proposals According to Organization Types (1st and 2nd rounds)**







## “Ecoregion”

*Small Grants Program of the World Wide Fund for Nature and the United States Agency for International Development*



### **The Far Eastern branch of the World Wide Fund for Nature has received 109 proposals for the third round of the “Ecoregion” small grant program.**

The program is aimed at bio-diversity conservation in the Russian Far East ecoregion and is funded by the United States Agency for International Development. The program’s grant pool is \$600.000.00.

According to program coordinator, Yuliya Fomenko, two grant rounds have taken place since the program’s beginning in October 1999. Independent experts reviewed 364 projects and selected 56 projects to fund. The total sum of funding equaled \$347,855.00. Environmental organizations from Primorskii and Khabarovskii krais, Amurskaya, Jewish autonomous and Sakhalinskaya oblasts have been selected to participate in the program. The following projects are being financed: improving natural resource use and management and educating the local population about nature conservation.

#### Program results:

In the Amurskii district, an anti-poaching snow leopard brigade has been established. The establishment of similar units at the State Nature Reserve “Komsomol’skii” in Khabarovskii krai and at the Far Eastern State University in Primorskii krai will be financed. Grant money will be used to educate customs officials in preventing the illegal export of wildlife products. Species such as snow sheep, the Chinese wax bee, Sakhalin salmon, and wild ginseng are protected under legislation and studies are being conducted as how to best protect them and other species.

On December 22, a grant board meeting will take place. The board will approve a list of projects recommended for financing within the third and last round of the “Ecoregion” small grant program.

November 24, 2000

#### Pictures’ titles:

- Project of the “Culture of the XXI Century” non-governmental organization, Jewish Autonomous oblast.  
Clearing activities in environmental camp.
- Project of the State Regional Museum by Arseniev, Primorskii krai  
A section of a new nature exhibit



## “Ecoregion”

*Small Grants Program of the World Wide Fund for Nature and the United States Agency for International Development*



**November 15, 2000 – is the deadline for submitting proposals for the third round of the “Ecoregion” small grant program run by WWF.**

The program, funded by the United States Agency for International Development, is aimed at biodiversity conservation in the Russian Far East ecoregion. The program's grant pool is \$600,000.00. According to program coordinator, Yuliya Fomenko, two grant rounds have taken place since the program's beginning in October 1999. Independent experts reviewed 364 projects and selected 56 projects to fund. The total sum of funding equaled \$347,855.00. Environmental organizations from Primorskii and Khabarovskii krais, Amurskaya, Jewish autonomous and Sakhalinskaya oblasts have been selected to participate in the program. The following projects are being financed: improving natural resource use and management, and educating the local population about nature conservation.

The Biology and Soil Institute, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Science is working on a project aimed at the restoration of the wild ginseng population in Kirovskii and Spasskii districts of Primorye. A second project is the establishment of a student brigade on nature conservation in the Komsomolskii nature reserve in Khabarovskii krai. A third project involves educating border guards in the Jewish Autonomous Oblast about nature protection legislation and how to prevent violations.

Presently, the WWF's Far Eastern office is getting ready for the final round of grant competition. Grant proposals will be received until November 15 and in mid-December the Advisory Board will convene to select the projects that will receive funding.

More detailed information could be received at the following address:  
Yuliya Fomenko, Program coordinator, WWF-RPO Far Eastern Office  
690091, Vladivostok, Pologaya Street, 68-411  
tel./fax (4232)40-66-51, 40-66-52, 40-66-53  
e-mail: [wwfrfe@vld.global-one.ru](mailto:wwfrfe@vld.global-one.ru)

October 25, 2000

**List of Projects Recommended for Funding**  
**"Ecoregion" Small Grant Program, III round, December 22, 2000, Vladivostok**

No.	No.	Code	Project Title	Project Coordinator	Applicant Organization	Grant Amount	Project Results
<b>Amurskaya oblast (for the total sum of \$39,630.00)</b>							
1	1	AMU 415	Conservation of Nesting Grounds of Rare Birds of the Nora and Selemджа Rivers Basin	Nikolai Kolobaev	The "Norskii" State Nature Reserve	6090	Research of nesting grounds of rare (listed in the Red data book) birds species is conducted; summary report on the status of rare birds is prepared; -zoning of the territory under consideration is conducted and inventory of protected areas is prepared; -documents necessary to include the Norskii state nature reserve into the Ramsar list is prepared; -monitoring station is organized with local school circles and volunteers involved into the monitoring activities
2	2	AMU 479	Protected Areas under the "Snow Leopard" Brigade's Protection	Alexandr Senchik	The Amurskii Branch of Socio-Ecological Union	6990	Joint raids in Khanganskii and Norskii state nature reserves are conducted to stop poaching and other types of violations; -in Norskii state nature reserve a patrolling of migration routs of roe deer is organized; -research of Selemdzhinskii district is conducted to create a new forest refuge; -professional skills of no less than 40 students is raised through their participation in raids and patrolling activities
3	3	AMU 534	Federal Wildlife Refuge "Orlovskii" Begins its Activity	Boris Stamikov	Hunting Department for Amurskaya Oblast	7000	Infrastructure of the refuge is developed through construction of a central base and three guard posts in its territory
4	4	AMU 536	Creation of a Model Econet on the Base of the "Khinganskii" State Nature Reserve	Vladimir Andronov	The "Khinganskii" State Nature Reserve	6750	Inventory of nature monuments in Arkharinskii district is conducted; -documents allowing to transfer forests of the State forest fund to the State Nature Reserve "Khinganskii" are prepared; in the territory of Arkharinskii and Bureinskii districts a network of protected areas of different statuses is created
5	5	AMU 540	Inventory of Protected Areas of Amurskaya Oblast	Vadim Cherei	Environmental Committee for Amurskaya Oblast	6400	Inventory of protected areas of Amurskaya oblast is prepared filled with maps, tables, charts; -specialists are trained to keep and update the inventory data

6	6 AMU 541	Northern Ecosystems Should Be Protected	Svetlana Titova	The Amurskii Branch of Socio-ecological Union	6400	Campaigns in mass media aimed at conservation of northern ecosystems and support of traditional lifestyle of indigenous people are conducted; ·field research is conducted and scientific base for creation of a new wildlife refuge in Tyndinskii district is prepared
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**Khabarovskii krai (for the total sum of \$31,944.00)**

7	1 KHAB 467	Far Eastern Turtle: to Be or not to Be?	Eduard Adnagulov	Ecological Fund "Amur"	7000	Research of the turtle's habitats in the lower reaches of the Amur river are conducted; · Assessment of anthropogenic impact on the turtle's habitats and the state of the population is done; · Measures for the species protection are developed (creation of protected areas in the research areas)
8	2 KHAB 475	The Far Eastern Market of Wildlife Medicines	Sergei Pakhno	NGO "Krechet"	12100	Information on trade in legal wildlife products used in medicine is collected and systematized; ·recommendations are developed that will help optimize activities aimed at stopping poaching and protection of fauna species used for medicines; ·the recommendations developed are included into nature protection rules and regulations adopted in the territories of the Far Eastern ecoregion; ·information brochure is published
9	3 KHAB 464	We Got Ready for Creation of Econet	Albert Dumikyan	The "Bureinskii" Nature State Reserve	5950	A network of protected areas of different statuses is created at the base of the "Bureinskii" Nature State Reserve
10	4 KHAB 497	Ecological Security as a Basis for Ecotours Development	Elena Balaganskaya	NGO "Wildlife Fund"	6894	Development of eco tours in the territory of the wildlife refuge; zoning of the refuge's territory is conducted; probation of eco tours is conducted

**Primorskii krai (for the total sum of \$97,195.00)**

11	1	PRI 456	Development of a Standard Information-Reference System "Foreign Trade of Marine Biological Resources of the Russian Far East" and its Introduction in the Far Eastern Marine Customs	Vladimir Svinukhov	The Vladivostok Branch of the Russian Customs Academy	7000	Standard information-reference system is developed as a tool for proper declaration and control over legal and illegal transportation across the Russian boarder of marine resources including CITES species. The system will also be used for raising qualification of customs officials; · 50 copies of diskettes are prepared and distributed among customs and customs posts of the Far Eastern Customs Department
12	2	PRI 472	Field Research and Conservation of Rare and Endangered Birds of Wetlands in the Southern Part of Sikhote-Alin Mountain Range	Valerii Shokhrin	The Lazovskii State Nature Reserve	2500	Census is conducted and data on modern conditions of rare birds populations inhabiting Lazovskii, Chuguevskii and Olginskii districts are received; ·data base on birds distribution, number, nests and nesting grounds, accumulation sites is created; inventory of nests and nesting grounds is prepared; ·documents for establishing of two nature monuments are prepared and submitted to the local Environmental committees for making decisions
13	3	PRI 485	Assistance to Natural Forest Regeneration in the Russian Far East	Gennadii Gukov	Institute of Forestry at the State Agricultural Academy	6650	A new technology able to minimize costs and duration of reforestation in forest-free areas; ·measures on improvement of strain composition in low valuable stands are undertaken
14	4	PRI 489	Living Sea	Vladimir Vasil'chenko	Institute for Climatology	7000	Quality and quantity characteristics (geological, biological and ecological) for the Expedition Bay are received and combined together with contamination characteristics that come from the land; ·detailed description of muds (used for medicinal purposes) is made and laboratory research is conducted (sanitary, bacteriological, microbiological, microelement analysis); ·report on the research is prepared and submitted to Environmental Committee for Primorskii krai; ·medical mud is put under state control
15	5	PRI 492	Organization and Conduction of the International Conference "Biodiversity of North-East Asia	Valentin Sergienko	Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences	6900	Main problems of biodiversity conservation and nature protection in North-East Asia and adjacent territories are identified; ·ways of solving the above mentioned problems are worked out; ·activities for involving China as a full partner into biodiversity conservation activities are proposed

16	6	PRI 504	Conduction of a Training for Border Guards to Instruct Them How to Behave When Meet a Tiger or a Leopard	Elena Golobokova	Primorskii Krai Society for Nature Protection	6048	A training for border guards of three districts of Primorskii krai is conducted; methodological materials with recommendations from biologists are published and distributed among border posts; recommendations of biologists are included into "Course of a young border guard"
17	7	PRI 505	This is my Home	Valentin Kuzenkov	Environmental Center "My Planet"	6986	Permanent information posters containing basic information on reserved territories are established (installed) along roads in Primorskii krai
18	8	PRI 518	The Territory and Object Oriented Evaluation of Biodiversity in the Far Eastern Ecoregion	Vladimir Bocharnikov	Pacific Institute of Geography of Far Eastern Branch of Russian Academy of Science	7000	Results of the evaluation of biodiversity on the main biotic groups and territories are prepared; · Suggestions to improve the activity on creating Econet and further research of biodiversity are made; · The set of the electronic maps on natural resources, habitats and the objects of biodiversity in the southern Far East
19	9	PRI 527	Training of Watch Dogs to Identify Illegally Harvested Biological Resources	Sergei Zubtsov	State Environmental Committee for Primorskii Krai	5000	Two watch dogs are trained how to detect illegally harvested bio resources; cynologist is introduced into the staff of the "Tiger" inspection; enclosure for keeping two trained watch dogs is built
20	10	PRI 531	Creation of a Training Center for Studying the Basics of Nature Protection and Nature Use	Vladimir Aramilev	Institute for Sustainable Nature Use	20840	Infrastructure for studying the basics of nature protection and nature use by specialists is created; summer tent camp for studying the basics of eco tourism is organized; conditions for effective protection of the Eastern part of Sikhote-Alin are established
21	11	PRI 538	Creation of a System to Monitor Nature Protection Legislation Violations	Sergei Krasnopeev	Pacific Institute of Geography of Far Eastern Branch of Russian Academy of Science	15000	A system to monitor nature protective legislation violations is created; appropriate governmental structures and nature resources users are provided with full-scale and operative information on the status of environment
22	12	PRI 543	Environment: Protected Ring of the Russian Far East	Natalia Malakhova	Non-Commercial Partnership "Eco-Patrol"	6271	A cycle of 13 radio programs is created; · 6 rounds of the "Living Planet" radio competition is conducted dedicated to the issues of rare flora and fauna species

**Sakhalinskaya oblast (for the total sum of \$28,116.00)**

23	1	SAKH 441	The Sacred Island	Eugenii Grigoriev	The "Kurilskii" State Nature Reserve	21116	Environmental visit-center is created; methodological materials in three languages are developed and published; environmental path is organized
24	2	SAKH 482	Living Book	Alexandr Verner	NGO "The Sakhalin Environmental Watch"	7000	Systematization and processing of video-materials accumulated for several years; regular environmental program "Living Book" is restored on the local oblast-wide TV; regular environmental radio program "Radio of Nature" is organized on the local radio;

**Jewish Autonomous Oblast (for the total sum of \$10,608.00)**

25	1	EVR 447	Rest Zone	Vitalii Rostov	Society of Hunters and Fishermen of the Jewish Autonomous oblast	6998	Wildlife game refuge is organized in one if the districts of JAO; patrolling of the territory (not less that 12 raids) is conducted; 15 posters are installed; census of elk is conducted; mapping of cranes and storks nesting grounds is done
26	2	EVR 453	Active Dissemination of Information on Forest Fires among Local Population	Yurii Panin	NGO "Bagulnik"	3610	Press-center distributing information on forest fires on a regular basis is established; TV and radio reels on forest fires prevention activities are prepared and broadcasted on a regular basis; 16 parachute jumps in heavily populated areas are conducted using loud-speakers for fire-prevention agitation and leaf letters for distribution among local people; 5 posters containing fire prevention information are prepared and installed in Birobidjan (the capital of JAO), and 4 on the main exits from the city

**Irkutskaya Oblast (for the total sum of \$15,768.00)**

27	1	IRK 512	Curricular on Biodiversity Conservation	Yurii Vashukevitch	Public fund "The Irkutskaya School of Wildlife Biologists"	15768	Curricular on biodiversity conservation is developed and adopted on federal level
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**Moscow Oblast (for the total sum of \$20,545.00)**

28	1	MOS 530	Optimization of the System of Protected Areas in the Far Eastern Leopard Habitats	Anatolii Maksimuk	Central Research Expedition for Hunting Management	20545	Proposals for optimization of the system of protected areas in the Far Eastern leopard habitats are prepared and adopted on federal and local levels
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**TOTAL:** **243,806.00**

- Optimization of the system of protected areas
- Improvement of natural resource management
- Raising awareness of the local population in nature